in the development of geographical science; and geography profited thereby.

W. M. Davis

Cambridge, Mass.,
June, 1918

ARMAND THEVENIN

The French paleontologist, Armand Thevenin, who lost his life on March 7, at the age of forty-eight years, as a result of experimenting with poisonous gases in connection with the war, will be remembered chiefly for his beautiful memoir on the early vertebrates of France. He was particularly interested during several years in the Coal Measures Amphibia of France and in 1906 under the title "Amphibiens et Reptile du Terrain Houiller de France" he published in the *Annales de Paléontologie* his initial memoir on this subject. In this memoir Thevenin showed a wide acquaintance with the subject of fossil Amphibia and was especially fortunate in the discovery of an interesting and primitive reptile which he described under the name of *Sauravus costei*. This form, as the most ancient reptile of France, is paralleled in America by the form *Eosauravus copei* described by Williston from the Coal Measures of Linton, Ohio.

Four years later appeared Thevenin's monographic contribution to vertebrate paleontology, published with the title "Les plus anciens Quadrupédes de France" in Tome V. of the *Annales de Paléontologie*. This beautifully illustrated and carefully written memoir was awarded a prize by the Academy of Sciences and will now stand for all time as an indication of the ability and ideals of Armand Thevenin. Had his life been spared he doubtless would have given us other memoirs of a like nature, for shortly before the war he was interested in the study of the vertebrate paleontology of Madagascar, of which several studies had appeared in the pages of the *Annales de Paléontologie*. Thevenin summarized the results of his studies on the most ancient vertebrates of France by noting, for both amphibians and reptiles, the diversity of form and structure exhibited by the species which he had studied, suggesting that the vertebrates of the Coal Measures, though very ancient, were still a long way from their origin. A similar conclusion has been reached by students of early vertebrates in America.

Thevenin was fortunate in his association in the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle with paleontologists of international fame, such as Albert Gaudry and Marcellin Boule and he profited by his association in producing under the stimulus of their influence his interesting studies on fossil vertebrates. His list of papers is not extensive, probably not over a dozen all told, but his work was carefully and well done and he will stand as a worthy worker in the development of vertebrate paleontology. Students of paleontology in the future may gain much by studying carefully the neat and orderly presentation of facts and the beautiful illustrations of his "Les plus anciens Quadrupédes de France" and thus be stimulated to produce better and more carefully wrought pieces of thoughtful endeavor.

Roy L. Moodie

College of Medicine,
University of Illinois

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE KATMAI EXPEDITION OF THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Word has just been received of the safe arrival in the field of this year's National Geographic Society expedition to the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. On account of the war and particularly because of the difficulty of securing transportation for a larger party it was deemed advisable to send only two men into the field this year, the director, Dr. Robert F. Griggs, and other members of the expedition remaining behind to work up the unpublished results of the expedition of 1917. The field party consists of Jasper Sayre and Paul R. Hagelbarger, both members of last year's expedition. Their mission is to carry forward reconnaissances into country not reached by previous expeditions and to lay the foundation for more intensive scientific study of the volcanic phenomena manifested in the Valley of